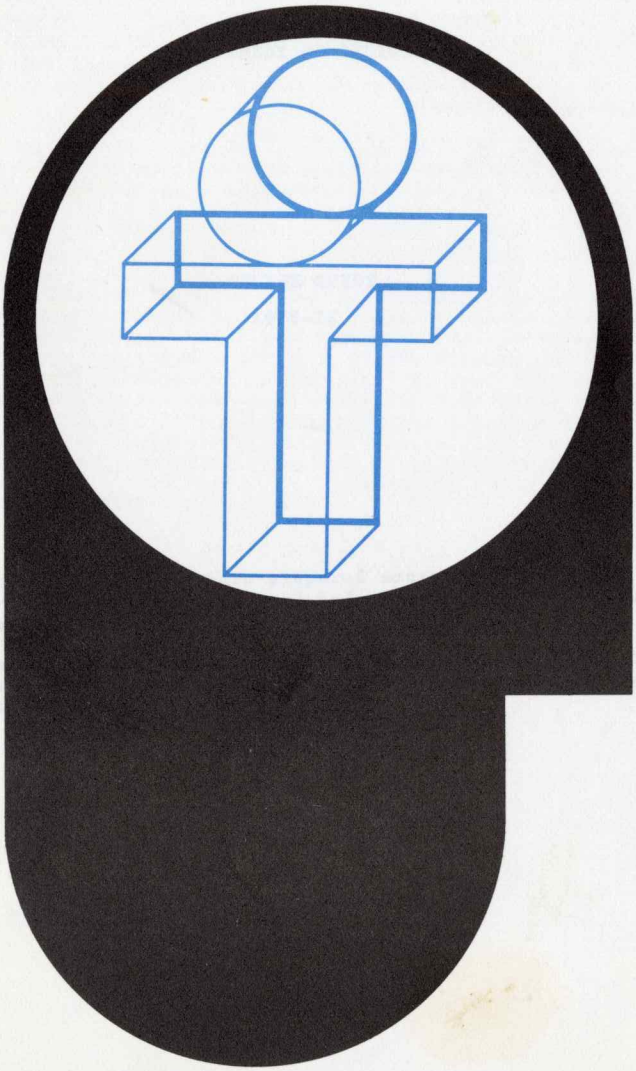
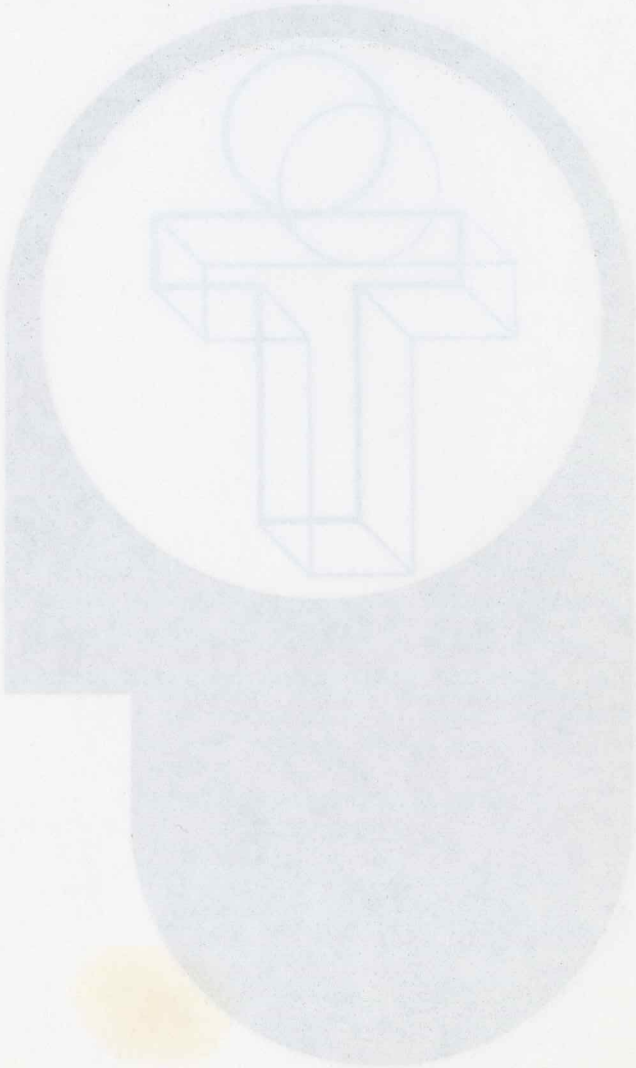
Arts

concordia university

Sir George Williams
Faculty of Arts

Religion





SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS CAMPUS

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

COURSE GUIDE

1975-76

This course guide has been prepared months in advance of the 1975-76 academic year, and information contained herein is subject to change.

Students are advised not to purchase any texts without the approval of the department or professor concerned. Please call the Religion Department at 879-4194.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DEPARTMENT

At Sir George Williams Campus the Department of Religion has been, since its creation in the 1950's, a non-denominational academic department of religion. Its concern with the History of Religions includes historical studies in Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism. It is the only Department of Religion in Canada that has integrated into its History of Religious curriculum its Programme in Judaic Studies. In addition, contemporary areas of religious concern form concurrent streams of study in Comparative Ethics, Philosophy of Religion, Religion and Culture, and Religion and Society.

For 1971-74, the Canadian Society for the Study of Religion elected our chairman, Charles Davis, as President of the Society.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME

The Department of Religion offers two Major Programmes (one in Religion; one in Judaic Studies), an Honours Programme in Religion, and Joint Majors and Combined Honours Programmes.

KNOWLEDGE OF TWO MAJOR RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS

The department believes that every Major or Honours student in Religion should possess, at time of graduation, a knowledge of at least two major religious traditions. For example, the student who is pursuing a Major in Judaic Studies should take at least one or two courses in a religious tradition other than Judaism. This basic principle reinforces the emphasis upon the centrality of the discipline of the History of Religions. A particular religious tradition can be best understood in the context of the general religious history of mankind.

SEMINARS AND READING COURSES

The Department of Religion has designed a series of seminar-reading courses, Religion 491-498. Each year at least one of these courses will be offered in a special subject related to an area of research presently being conducted by one of the faculty members. However, other seminars might result from suggestions by students that a subject of their interest which is not normally offered, be taught.

The seminar slots might also be used as "reading courses" for a student who wishes to pursue a programme of independent study; in such a case the student would develop an adequate bibliography and would read under the guidance of a faculty member. Finally, for a few exceptional students, these courses will be used to integrate undergraduate programmes with graduate programmes.

EDUCATIONAL FUNCTION

University education has an important social function independent of the relation of particular subjects to the job market. In the complex and changing culture of our society, it is often no longer possible or necessary to tie at least the first university degree to vocational training. The Department of Religion, then, sees its prime function in this broader context of education.

Vocationally, however, a Major or Honours in Religion could prepare the undergraduate for further education leading to teaching in religion at the high school, CEGEP or university level. A bachelors degree in Religion could also be of benefit for undergraduates who plan careers in social work, law, civil service and other fields for which a Humanities education is needed.

THE BOYD SINYARD AWARD

Each year the Boyd Sinyard award is given to the student in Religion with the highest grade-point average. The award is named after the first chairman of the Department of Religion at Sir George Williams University.

FACULTY

A list of the full-time faculty follows below. All hold degrees from universities and/or schools of advanced studies that represent the best academic centers for the study of religion in Canada, the United States, Great Britain and Europe. Several have published books that have made a major contribution to their particular fields of study; all have published in learned journals and have given papers at learned societies. They have also won the reputation among their students for being good teachers, concerned about the quality of instruction at Concordia University, as well as for being a faculty that is "available" and is committed to the development of a more meaningful student life.

FULL TIME FACULTY

Professors

Charles Davis, S.T.L. (Gregorian, Rome)
Michel Despland, Th.D. (Harvard)

Associate Professors

Sheila McDonough, Ph.D. (McGill)
David Miller, Ph.D. (Harvard)
John Rossner, S.T.M. (McGill)

Assistant Professors

Frederick B. Bird, Ph.D. (Graduate Theological Union)
Ehud Luz, M.A. (Hebrew University)
Michael Oppenheim, M.A. (University of California, Santa Barbara)
Alti Rodal, B.Phil. (Oxford)

Advisors

Religion Major and Honours Program
David Miller Telephone: 879-7252

Judaic Studies Major Program
Michael Oppenheim Telephone: 879-7253

Legend

Courses with numbers ending in /3 are 6-credit courses.
A course ending in /2 is a 3-credit course, first term.
A course ending in /4 is a 3-credit course, second term.

Religion 201/3 Wed. 6:15-8:10
CLASSICAL HEBREW
Shmuel Isackson

A study of the language of the classical Hebrew texts. The course is designed as a preparation for reading the Hebrew Bible, but takes account of other texts (6 credits)

Religion N211/3 Tues.
UNDERSTANDING RELIGION 6:15-8:10
Prof. Charles Davis

A systematic and topical introduction to the study of religion. The purpose of the course is to enable the student to articulate and investigate questions about the meaning and nature of religion. Problems discussed will include the elements of religious experience, forms of religious expression and interpretation, religious communities and practices, and the questions raised by the contemporary interfaith dialogue. Materials will be taken from a variety of religious traditions. (6 credits)

Book List:

Robert C. Monk and Others, Exploring Religious Meaning (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, 1973)

F. Streng, Charles Lloyd, Jay Allen, Ways of Being Religious: Readings for a New Approach to Religion (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, 1973)

Ninian Smart, The Religious Experience of Mankind (New York: Scribners, 1969)

Requirements:

The outline of the course assigns readings for each week from the books listed. Each student is urged to read the passages indicated before the classes devoted to the topic. Further lists of books recommended or referred to will be distributed during the course.

A written test will be held on the term's work during the last class of each term.

One written paper of 1500 to 2000 words will be done each term on one of the topics listed in the outline or on a topic chosen by the student with the approval of the instructor. The instructor will be available for advice in preparing the paper. When completed, the paper will be discussed in an individual tutorial with the student.

Religion N213/3 (113) TT 1:15-2:30
MAJOR RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS OF THE WORLD Mon. 6:15-8:10
Prof. David Miller and
Prof. Michael Oppenheim

The principal aim of this course is to provide the student with a historical and comparative overview of the major living religious traditions of the world. In the first term Hinduism and Buddhism, the Chinese religions, and the new religions of North America will be covered. In the second term Judaism, Christianity and Islam will be studied. The course will be "team-taught" by members of the Department of Religion specializing in the religious traditions that will be presented and guest speakers representing those religious traditions will give lectures from time to time. Considerable use will be made of films and slides. (6 credits)

Book List: (to be revised slightly)

Texts for Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam in the following series:

W. Richard Comstock, Religion and Man (series editor)
Mircea Eliade, Cosmos and History
Rudolf Otto, The Idea of the Holy
Abraham Heschel, God in Search of Man

Percentage of Grade:

40% Examination on First Term
40% Examination on Second Term
20% Short Research Paper

Religion N301/2 MW 3:45-5:00
INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL STUDIES I: Thurs. 6:15-8:10
HEBREW BIBLE
Prof. Michael Oppenheim

This introductory course seeks to acquaint the student with different ways of gaining insight into the Bible. The history of ancient Israel, and the methods and results of modern biblical scholarship will be studied. The Biblical literature will also be read as Israel's reflection upon her past and present history, the foundation of which is her unique relationship to God. Finally, the student will have the opportunity to confront some of the major religious and philosophical questions that come to life in the Hebrew Bible. (3 credits)

Bibliography:

John Bright, A History of Israel, The Westminister Press, 1
Martin Buber, The Prophetic Faith, Harper Torchbooks
or
Abraham Heschel, The Prophets, Harper and Row

Requirements:

Understanding the historical and methodological material, as well as showing ability to seriously sturggle with the religious and philosophical issues. A mid-term and a take-home final examination will be given.

Religion N302/4 MWF 10:55-11:45
BIBLICAL STUDIES II: Thurs. 6:15-8:10
THE NEW TESTAMENT
Prof. Michel Despland

An introduction to the methods and results of contemporary New Testament scholarship; a critical survey of New Testament literature considering historical setting, history of text, religious and cultural significance. Attention is given to the central issues and concepts portrayed in the Synoptic, Johannine and Pauline writings and their importance in the subsequent development of the Western religious tradition. (3 credits)

To this I add that in reading the New Testament, you may perhaps hear the gospel which, being good news, is that which answers the most important question. It is, of course, impossible to see this unless one has first come to ask the question. The course will teach a variety of ways of looking at the New Testament in order to learn all kinds of serious things, all of which may miss the question. The ways of looking can be taught; the question cannot.

Book List:

R.A. Spivey and D.M. Smith, Anatomy of the New Testament: A Guide to its Structure and Meaning, Second Edition.

The Bible (The New English Bible or the Revised Standard Version.)

Requirements:

On or around the sixth week, there will be an hour test on Chapters 1-4 of Spivey. There will be a final exam covering the entire work of the course.

Religion 311/3 (411) . TT 10:15-11:30
THE RELIGIONS OF INDIA, CEYLON
AND SOUTHEAST ASIA
Prof. David Miller

The principal aim of this course is to introduce the student to Hindu thought, mythology and religious institutions. Three weeks, however, will be given as an introduction to Buddhist thought, and two weeks will consider the impact of Islam and Christianity on Hinduism.
(6 credits)

Book List:

A.L. Basham, The Wonder that was India
Ananda Coomaraswamy and Sister Nivedita, Myths of the Hindus and Buddhists
S. Radhakrishnan and C.A. Moore (ed.) A Source Book in Indian Philosophy
Walpola Rahula, What the Buddha Taught
R.C. Zaehner, Hinduism
Heinrich Zimmer, Myths and Symbols in Indian Art and Civilization

Percentage of Grade:

70% Two examinations
20% Short research paper
10% Creative paper

Religion 312/3 Mon. 6:15-8:10
RELIGIONS OF CHINA AND JAPAN
Prof. Sheila McDonough

The primary emphasis will be on Mahayana Buddhism as developed in Tibet, China and Japan. Confucianism, Taoism and Shinto will also be discussed. The approach is multi-faceted - an attempt to combine study of the scriptures, the history, the rituals and the meaning for individuals.
(6 credits)

Book List:

P. Pardue, Buddhism
D.T. Suzuki, On Indian Mahayana Buddhism
H.V. Guenther, The Life and Teachings of Naropa
H. Welch, Taoism
A. Waley, The Way and Its Power

Requirements:

An in-class exam will be given on Naropa in the first term, and on the Tao Te Ching in the second term. One term paper will be required, and one final take-home exam will be given.

Religion 325/4 Tues. 8:30-10:25
THE BIBLE AND THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST
Prof. Marcel Leibovici

The significance of Old Testament institutions within the context of the ancient Mediterranean world. Law, covenant, writing, historiography, the relationship between man and God, sin, sacrifice and atonements will be discussed. Readings from contemporary literature in translation (Babylonian, Egyptian, Greek, Hittite, Ugarite). (3 credits)

Religion 326/2 TT 1:15-2:30
TALMUDIC JUDAISM Thurs. 8:30-10:25
Prof. Ehud Luz

Talmudic Judaism - History of the Jewish People in the Time of the Second Temple. The aim of the course is to provide the student with introduction to the main religious trends and institutions of the second Temple. Special attention will be paid to the internal social and religious controversies concerning the character of Jewish life. (3 credits)

Book List:

Flavius Josephus, The Second Jewish Commonwealth, ed. N. Glatzer
Schuerer Emil, History of the Jewish People in the Time of Jesus
Bickerman Elias, From Ezra to the Last Maccabees

Religion 327/4 TT 1:15-2:30
MEDIEVAL JEWISH THOUGHT & INSTITUTIONS
Prof. Alti Rodal

An introduction to the social, religious and intellectual history of selected Jewish communities in the Middle Ages in the muslim countries, Byzantium and in Europe. Topics include the demography, migration and economic activities of medieval Jewry, the communal structure of self-government, the Crusades, the Church and the Jews persecutions, expulsions and martyrdom, medieval Jewish literature, philosophy, mysticism, Kabbalah and Rabbinic literature. (3 credits)

Book List:

L. Finkelstein (ed.) The Jews, vol. 1
Y. Katz, Tradition and Crisis (Oxford 1961)
S. Dubnow, History of the Jewish People (London 1971) vol. 3 & 4
I. Baer, History of the Jews in Christian Spain (Philadelphia 1966)
A. Husik, History of Medieval Jewish Philosophy (ppbk. Philadelphia)
G. Scholem, Major Trends in Jewish Mysticism (Schocken ppbk. 1965)
S.W. Baron, The Social and Religious History of the Jews (2nd ed.)

Religion 328/2 (428) TT 11:45-1:00
MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT & INSTITUTIONS I: Tues. 6:15-8:10
(1780-1880)
Prof. Alti Rodal

A survey of the social and intellectual events which have shaped the modern period in Jewish history. Topics include: emancipation and the emergence of the Jewish problem; the themes of integration and assimilation, Jewish identity and Jewish survival; the French Revolution, Napoleon and the Jews; changes in the structure of the Jewish community; social and religious movements, including the Haskalah movement, Hasidism, the Science of Judaism, the Reform movement, the Musur movement and Neoorthodoxy. Particular attention will be given to the interaction between European social, political, economic and intellectual developments and corresponding developments within the Jewish community. (3 credits)

Book List:

H.M. Sachar, The Course of Modern Jewish History
Louis Finkelstein (ed.) The Jews (Their History, Their Religion and Culture)
Michael A. Meyer, The Origins of the Modern Jew
Jacob Katz, Tradition and Crisis and Out of the Ghetto
Arthur Hertsberg, The French Enlightenment and the Jews
Martin Buber, Tales of the Hasidim

Religion N329/2 Mon. 8:30-10:25
SEPHARDIC JUDAISM
Rabbi Howard Joseph

A critical analysis of the religious and cultural traditions peculiar to Sephardic Judaism. Emphasis will be placed on the development of Judaism in Islamic societies and the impact of Spanish Jewish Culture on all Middle Eastern Jewry, especially North Africa. (3 credits)

Religion 330/4 TT 11:45-1:00
MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT & INSTITUTIONS II: Wed. 8:30-10:25
(1880 - present)
Prof. Michael Oppenheim

The course will focus on the continuing struggle of the modern Jew to find solutions to the problems that arose from the breakdown of the traditional society during the Emancipation. Another focus will be the change in direction that took place in modern Jewish consciousness in the face of modern Nationalism and Anti-Semitism. Formative events such as the rise of Zionism, the Holocaust, and the establishment of the State of Israel will be examined. Modern Jewish thinkers like Rosenzweig, Buber, Kaplan, Heschel and others will be discussed in light of both modern religious man's quest for self-understanding and the attempt of the Jewish individual and community to find a meaningful place in the modern world. (3 credits)

Book List:

A. Hertzberg, The Zionist Idea
F. Rosenzweig, Franz Rosenzweig: His Life and Thought
M. Buber, On Judaism
A. Heschel, God in Search of Man: A Philosophy of Judaism
N. Glatzer, American Judaism

Requirements:

Mid-term examination and take-home final or paper.

Religion 331/2 MWF 9:50-10:40
CONTEMPORARY ETHICAL ISSUES: PERSONAL
Religion 332/4 MWF 9:50-10:40
CONTEMPORARY ETHICAL ISSUES: SOCIETAL
Prof. Fred Bird

These two one term courses will look at the relationship between ultimate value commitments and the ways in which people identify and respond to contemporary personal and social moral problems.

During the first term, this course will identify and analyse ethical issues arising at the personal level. Issues will be discussed in the context of the inter-relationship between moral values and religious convictions. In particular we will look at issues related to medical issues, moral issues related to work and leisure and family and sex roles.

During the second term, the course will identify and analyse ethical issues arising from social groups. In discussing the issues, account will be taken of the bearing of religious institutions and traditions on social attitudes and problems. In particular the course will focus on these topics: the morality and immorality of propaganda, the ethics of violence and non-violence, and the moral dilemnas related to the problems of scarcity, hunger, and the maldistribution of the world's valued resources.

The course will be given with an examination of the relationship of beliefs to decision-making about ethical issues: (3 credits each)

Readings:(tentative)

Mike Novak, The Experience of Nothingness
Jacques Ellul, Propaganda
Joseph Fletcher, Medical Ethics
Barbara Ward & Rene Dubois, Only One Earth: the Care and Maintenance of a Small Planet
Bainton, Christian Attitudes Towards War and Peace
Gandhi, Non-violent Resistance
Friere, Pedagogy of the Oppressed

Assignments:

One term paper and one take-home exam each term.

Each one-term course may be taken separately.

Religion 333/2
WOMEN IN RELIGION
Prof. Sheila McDonough

TT 10:15-11:30
Wed. 6:15-8:10

The emphasis will be on selected problems from the history of religion which may help illuminate understanding of the complex interrelationship between religion and sexuality. The focus will be on the ancient Mediterranean and Greece with the Greek plays as the primary source. Topics discussed will include menstruation taboos, fertility-power and threat, the mother goddess, the dying king and the wildness of the Maenads. (3 credits)

Texts:

Mary Renault, The King Must Die
Philip Slater, The Glory of Hera
Any edition of the works of Euripides, Aschylus or Aristophanes

Requirements:

An in-class exam will be given on The King Must Die. Each student must be prepared to discuss one play in class. A final take-home exam will be given.

Religion 334/4
WOMEN IN RELIGION
Prof. Sheila McDonough

TT 10:15-11:30
Wed. 6:15-8:10

The emphasis will be on Judaism and Christianity. There will be a full discussion of the various ideas about women's ultimate fate and earthly role as presented in the Jewish and Christian scriptures. The Talmud, the early fathers, the Reformation and the modern period will also be considered. Some reference will be made to other world religions. (3 credits)

Texts:

R. Ruether, ed. Religion and Sexism
R. Ruether, Liberation Theology

Requirements:

One term paper and one take-home exam.

Religion N341/3 MW 2:10-3:25
RELIGION AND LITERATURE
Prof. Charles Davis

The course deals with questions raised for the study of religion by works of literature. In 1975/76 the course will deal with these problems. (6 credits)

Theological Criticism: its method and difficulties
Nathan A. Scott, Jr., Negative Capability

Varieties of Parable - A parable is a narrative in which something is expressed in terms of something else. A religious theme in literature would seem to require some sort of parable form. The problem is discussed in relation to both the New Testament and some modern writers of parable.
Dan Otto Via, Jr., The Parables; their literary and existential dimension.
Iris Murdoch, The Unicorn
William Golding, Pincher Martin and The Spire
Franz Kafka, "The Metamorphisis"

Transcendence in Literature
C.S. Lewis, Till We Have Faces
Flannery O'Connor, Everything That Rises Must Converge
T.S. Eliot, Four Quartets

The Religious Imagination and Secular Man
William F. Lynch, Christ and Prometheus: a new image of the secular
Harold Pinter, The Birthday Party and The Caretaker
Nathanael West, Miss Lonelyhearts and The Day of the Locust
Nietzsche, Thus Spoke Zarathustra
Selected poems from Wallace Stevens and T.S. Eliot

Requirements:

A take-home examination will be set in the last week of each semester. One written paper of 1500 to 2000 words will be done each semester on a topic chosen by the student from the subject matter of the course and approved by the instructor. Further reading lists will be issued to help in preparing the paper and the instructor will be available for advice.

Religion N362/3 Wed. 6:15-8:10
QUESTIONS FROM THE CHRISTIAN TRADITION
Martha Saunders Oppenheim

This course will consider some of the major ideas of Christianity in the historical context in which they developed. Some of the topics will include the meaning of Jesus, the role of faith and belief, sin, grace and free will, and the relation of the Church and the world. Readings will include selections from the great Christian thinkers of each age. (6 credits)

Reading List:

J. Pelikan ed. Twentieth Century Theology in the Making, Vols. II and III
Norman Cantor and Peter Klein, eds., Medieval Thought: Augustine and Thomas Aquinas
Norman Cantor and Peter Klein, eds., Reformation Thought: Luther and Calvin

Requirements:

Preparation of assigned readings, one paper each term and take-home exam.

Religion 363/3 Thurs. 6:15-8:10
RELIGION IN CANADA
Mr. David Rome

The course will survey the phenomenon of religion in Canada by examining the major denominations to which Canadians adhere.

It will examine the creeds and the histories of these churches; their organization and development; their pre-Canadian background. Among the subjects for this examination are: church and state throughout Canadian history; establishment of churches; churches in edication - elementary and higher; the churches in the development of the universities; religious scholarship; religion in Canadian schools; the churches and such social institutions as hospitals, nationalisms and trade unions; the geography of religion in Canada; religious architecture and art; ethnicity and religions; national unification; church union; ecumenism; social concern; missionary work among the original inhabitants and white immigrants; Canadian religious presence overseas; religious experience and religion in literature and art; the Jewish society; church orders, congregations and communities. (6 credits)

Book List:

Wm. Kilbourne, ed., Religion in Canada, Toronto, McClelland and Stewart, 1968
J.W. Grant, ed., The Churches and the Canadian Experience, Toronto, Ryerson, 1963
_____, The Church in the Canadian Era, Toronto, McGraw-Hill, 1972
J.S. Moir, The Church in the British Era, Toronto, McGraw-Hill, 1972, Vol. 2.
H.H. Walsh, The Christian Church in Canada, Toronto, Ryerson, 1956
Douglas J. Wilson, The Church Grows in Canada, Toronto, Ryerson, 1966
B.G. Sack, History of the Jews in Canada, Montreal, Harvest House (Vol. 1 all published)

Religion N401/4 Wed. 4:00-5:55
ADVANCED STUDIES IN CLASSICAL JEWISH TEXTS
Prof. Alti Rodal

The course will be based on representative readings from Biblical, post-Biblical and medieval Hebrew literature. (3 credits)

Texts:

The Song of Songs
Pirqe Aboth
Excerpts from Midrash Bereshith Rabbah, Maimonides Mishneh Torah and selected poems of Ibn Gabirol and Yehudah Halevi.

Religion 443/3 MW 2:10-3:25
MODERN RELIGIOUS AND ATHEISTIC THOUGHT
Prof. Michael Oppenheim

A historical and critical examination of some of the religious and atheistic thinkers who were pivotal for the self-understanding of modern religious man. The course will focus on these thinkers' understanding of the nature of religion and its role in the modern world. The first semester will examine the attempt of 19th century thinkers to find a natural basis for religion. The second semester will continue the earlier theme as well as analyze how selected 20th century religious thinkers began to struggle again with the category of Revelation. Formative thinkers in both the Jewish and Christian traditions will be discussed. (6 credits)

Bibliography:

Schleiermacher, On Religion
Feuerbach, The Essence of Christianity
Marx, Karl Marx' Early Writings
Kierkegaard, Fear and Trembling
Bonhoeffer, Letters and Papers from Prison
Rosenzweig, Franz Rosenzweig: His Life and Thought
Buber, I and Thou
Tillich, Dynamics of Faith
Selected essays by Ernst Bloch

Requirements:

A take-home examination will be set in the last week of each semester. One short written paper will be done each semester on a topic chosen from the subject matter of the course and approved by the instructor.

Religion N465/3 Thurs. 8:30-10:25
CLASSICAL AND CONTEMPORARY IMAGES OF MAN
Prof. John Rossner

The Occult and Western Religious Traditions
A phenomenological study and a consideration of the religious meaning of some of the contemporary images of man reflected in recent parapsychological research, psychic phenomena, and the world of the occult. These will be examined against the background of the classical Greek, ancient Hebrew and early Christian conceptions of man and the major religious themes and motifs of intellectual traditions of the West. (6 credits)

Book List:

Colin Wilson, The Occult: A History, New York: Random House, 1971. A survey of the occult especially since the Renaissance.
Nils O. Jacobson, M.D., Life Without Death, New York: Dell Books, 1974. A recent survey of psychical research findings.

Requirements:

Regular class attendance, assigned readings, two short or one full-length student research project with report on a chosen topic, and one objective examination on the data covered in course lectures and readings.

Religion 491/3 MW 3:45-5:00
SPECIAL SEMINAR Wed. 8:30-10:25
Prof. John Rossner

Comparative Meditational Techniques - Eastern and Western

This course will survey various meditational and psychic or spiritual development techniques available in our society today from Eastern religious and Western scientific or new religious and quasi-religious sources. Each student will be asked to do a specific term project on one or more of these techniques and an assessment of (1) the particular world view, if any, which accompanies it; and (2) of the particular benefits which are claimed for it.

Research: Students will be allowed the option, in conjunction with the individual term project, to undertake personal study and application of one or more of the meditational techniques surveyed in the course.

Reading: Students are urged to read as broadly as possible in the literature provided by the various meditational groups, i.e. Yoga (from Hatha to Raja and Asana forms), Self-Realization Fellowship, Transcendental Meditation, Sivananda and Aurobindo groups, etc., and forms of Buddhist meditation, Zen, and Tibetan Tantra etc., as well as classical Western Christian monastic systems, i.e. Ignation, Franciscan, Salesian, etc., the newer methods for mental and/or spiritual development, Auto-Hypnosis, New Thought, Silva Mind Control, Psychosynthesis, Concept Therapy, etc., and the various Eastern or Western esoteric systems for explorations of the human psyche, such as the Hebrew Cabala, Ritual-Magic, Alchemy, the Tarot, the I Ching. (6 credits)

Text:

William Johnston, Silent Music: The Science of Meditation, New York: Harper and Row, 1974.

Religion 493/4 Mon. 8:30-10:25
SEMINAR, RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS:
COMPARATIVE MYSTICISM
Prof. David Miller

The first half of this course is designed to introduce the student to the major theories of mystical experience constructed by such scholars as: William James, Rudolf Otto, W.T. Stace and R.C. Zaehner. An attempt will be made to develop a workable typology or classification of mystical experience that seeks to differentiate mystical experience, such as, from other types of religious experience. After the workable typology has been established, the focus of the course will be on specific mystics or mystical traditions in order to "test" the classification of mystical experience that has been created. At this point in the course, students will be expected to do research in TWO mystics of mystical traditions in order to arrive at their own conclusions. The basic method of the course, therefore, is comparative, and the principal mystical traditions studied will be from Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and Taoism. (3 credits)

Book List: (partial)

William James, Varieties of Religious Experience
Rudolf Otto, Mysticism East and West
_____, The Idea of the Holy
W.T. Stace, Mysticism and Philosophy
_____, The Teachings of the Mystics
R.C. Zaehner, Mysticism; Sacred and Profane

Requirements:

One Examination	30%
One Research Paper	70%

Religion 495/2, Religion 496/4 To be arranged
RELIGIOUS THINKERS
Staff

In 1975/76 these course numbers will be used for reading courses, under the guidance of a faculty member. (3 credits each)

Religion 497/4 Thurs. 4:00-5:55
TOPICS IN JEWISH HISTORY:
JUDAISM AND EARLY CHRISTIANITY
Prof. Ehud Luz

Historical and intellectual discussion of the split and clash between Judaism and Christianity since the beginning of Christianity until early middle age. The major problems to be dealt with are: Christianity in Talmudic Literature, Jews and Christians in the New Testament, the Church Fathers and the Jews, Anti-Jewish legislation, etc.
(3 credits)

Book List:

Parkes, G., The Conflict of the Church and the Synagogue
Poliakov, L., History of Antisemitism
Grayzel, The Church and the Jews

Sociology N424/3 (432/3) MWF 12:00-12:55
SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION
Rose Tekel

The main focus of the course will be to consider the nature of the sacred. We will throughout the year look at different aspects of the experience of the sacred and its relationship to myth, rituals, religious organizations and religious movements. We shall be primarily concerned with these aspects of religion in the Judeo-Christian tradition, as well as in some primitive religions. (6 credits)

Book List:

Eliade, Mircea, Sacred and Profane
Robertson, Rolland (ed.), Sociology of Religion
and a collection of essays dealing with the history of Judaism and Christianity.

Requirements:

There will be six short assignments in the year.